

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 AGRE-00 COME-00 EB-08

SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 /068 W

-----013749 231048Z /16

R 230640Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY ANTANANARIVO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9605

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BRAZILIA

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANTANANARIVO 1517

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, MA, BR

SUBJECT: MADAGASCAR'S COFFEE SALES TO BRAZIL

REF: A) ANTANANARIVO 1255; B) ANTANANARIVO 1516 (BOTH NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY. MADAGASCAR MINISTER OF ECONOMY & COMMERCE JUSTIN RARIVOSON CLAIMS THAT COFFEE SALES TO BRAZIL DECIDED AT HIGHER LEVEL THAN HE, AND THAT IN ANY CASE QUESTION OF EFFECT ON FUTURE QUOTAS IS ACADEMIC SINCE COFFEE AGREEMENT WILL PROBABLY HAVE TO BE RENEGOTIATED. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING MY CALL ON MINISTER OF ECONOMY & COMMERCE JUSTIN RARIVOSON AUGUST 19 (SEE REF B), I RAISED THE ISSUE OF MADAGASCAR'S COFFEE SALES TO BRAZIL & THE POSSIBLE INJURY TO MADAGASCAR'S FUTURE QUOTAS WHICH MAY RESULT FROM THESE SALES. RARIVOSON CLAIMED THAT THE DECISION TO SELL COFFEE TO BRAZIL HAD BEEN MADE AT A HIGHER LEVEL THAN HE, PRESUMABLY BY PRESIDENT RATSIRAKA OR THE SUPREME REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL. NEVERTHE- LESS, HE ACKNOWLEDGED THE POSSIBLE IMPACT ON MADAGASCAR'S

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FUTURE QUOTAS, BUT CLAIMED THAT THE CURRENT WORLD COFFEE SITUATION IS IN SUCH DISARRAY THAT THE COFFEE AGREEMENT WOULD PROBABLY HAVE TO BE RENEGOTIATED OR AMENDED IN THE NEAR FUTURE, MAKING THE QUESTION OF FUTURE QUOTAS UNDER THE AGREEMENT ACADEMIC.

3. COMMENT: I SUSPECT THAT RARIVOSON IS REPEATING

ARGUMENTS USED BY BRAZIL TO CONVINCE MADAGASCAR TO RISK ITS QUOTA BY SELLING TO BRAZIL. PRESUMABLY, BRAZIL HAS USED THE SAME ARGUMENTS IN IVORY COAST AND EL SALVADOR.

4. RARIVOSON ALSO SAID THAT MADAGASCAR'S SALES TO BRAZIL WERE CONNECTED WITH RICE PURCHASES FROM THAT COUNTRY AND WITH BRAZIL'S INTENTIONS TO HELP MADAGASCAR SET UP AN INSTANT COFFEE PLANT.BARRETT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Channel Indicators: n/a
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Concepts: COFFEE, SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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